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AGAINST
the
GRAIN



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A YEAR IN JAIL

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OF THE WEEK

Allison



CITY PAGES

August 9-15, 2017

VOLUME 37 | NUMBER 1914



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★ AUGUST 19 ★

KENDRICK LAMAR



★ AUGUST 21 ★

LADY GAGA



★ AUGUST 25-26 ★

TIM MCGRAW AND FAITH HILL



★ SEPTEMBER 24 ★

THE WEEKND



★ OCTOBER 6 ★

ENRIQUE IGLESIAS AND PITBULL



★ OCTOBER 7 ★

CHRIS STAPLETON



★ OCTOBER 13 ★

CHRIS TOMLIN



★ OCTOBER 16 ★

IMAGINE DRAGONS



★ OCTOBER 18 ★

KINGS OF LEON



★ OCTOBER 22 ★

FALL OUT BOY



★ OCTOBER 27 ★

THOMAS RHETT



★ OCTOBER 29 ★

ARCADE FIRE



★ NOVEMBER 18 ★

HALSEY



★ NOVEMBER 25 ★

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THE SHORTLIST



Bryan Ferry's elegant, impeccable tour through the past
at citypages.com

COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

THE STAT SHEET

26,000

Estimated number of Minnesota men who've paid for prostitutes in the last year, according to a University of Minnesota study

\$20,000

Fines St. Paul state representative and DFL attorney general candidate John Lesch faces for misspending and shoddy record-keeping concerning his campaign treasury

46

Percentage of Christians who believe poverty is caused by a lack of effort, according to a Washington Post poll

29

Percentage of non-Christians who believe the same, leaving Jesus to wonder if he's hanging out with the wrong crowd

"If the citizens of Appleton want a full prison so badly, why aren't they committing more crimes?"

Reader Tim Giesecke responds to "Appleton private prison reopened to house Trump's 'criminal aliens,'" at citypages.com.

PROPAGANDA

WITH CONGRESS preparing to rewrite the tax code, you'll be hearing a lot about how the U.S. is the most taxed country in the world. It isn't so.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago researched the tax burdens of 34 of the world's most advanced economies. The U.S. finished among the lowest, above only Mexico, Chile, and South Korea.

At 25 percent, America was well below the 34 percent average. U.S. corporations have it even better, paying an effective average of 20 percent. Remember this when Washington howls come fall.

POPULAR STORIES

AT CITYPAGES.COM

Piss, dope, beggars & blow jobs: Welcome to the **LAKE STREET MET TRANSIT STATION**

It doesn't look good for **LORING PASTA BAR**

St. Paul man's **HANGING DEATH** ruled a suicide amid claims of 'lynching'

Michele Bachmann: Was **JUSTINE DAMOND** killed because of 'Shariah mindset'?

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA STUDENT GROUP bans white people, who are sad

SUSPICIONS ABOUND

Without concrete evidence, Minneapolis wants to shut down massage parlor over the appearance of prostitution

Julia Wang had not owned Orchid Massage Spa in Minneapolis' Nokomis neighborhood for a full year when neighbors started tipping off city inspectors about suspected prostitution.

It seemed odd, neighbors complained, that male customers bound for the spa would routinely park their cars blocks away from Orchid, despite the availability of much closer spots. So business license inspector Beth Roberts, a former police officer with 25 years' experience, began to investigate.

In November 2016, she watched as two separate male customers walked to Orchid after parking more than a block away. To Roberts, this was typical behavior for people seeking illegal sex services. When she entered Orchid, she found that owner Wang was out for lunch, leaving the spa in the charge of a woman who couldn't provide identification as an employee, and claimed to be there for a job interview.

The woman told Roberts she was the only one present that day. However, the inspector soon discovered a male customer inside one of the massage rooms with a female masseuse, who immediately closed the door at the sight of city staff.

During that same inspection, Roberts noted the spa had a "generally cluttered, unkempt, uninviting and unprofessional appearance," storing a large amount of food, cooking equipment, clothing, personal effects, and beds. This led her to conclude that workers lived on site, another sign of possible prostitution.

Later, Roberts trawled the web for Orchid ads, discovering the spa advertised heavily on Backpage.com, "often with sexually provocative photographs and copy." Orchid had also earned a number of customer reviews on RubMaps, an erotic massage locator. The ads weren't so overt that they broke any laws, but their tone and presentation seemed to flirt with the possibility, according to the inspector.

Orchid's business license expired on January 1 of this year. When Wang attempted to renew, Minneapolis Business Licenses staff recommended against it. So Wang appealed, denying having done anything short of running a legitimate business.

She points out that the street parking immediately outside Orchid is only valid for one hour, which doesn't do her customers any good when the typical massage itself is an hour long. As for the beds, clothing, and personal items found in the back room, Wang says she provides a lounge for her workers to rest up after tiring shifts, nothing more. And while she admitted to being careless by leaving a prospective employee with poor English in charge of the spa while she went out to lunch on the day of the inspection, Wang also criticized the city for failing to provide an interpreter while questioning the woman.

"I think it's not fair," Wang says. "I'm an honest business owner. I am Chinese, I am yellow, but that doesn't mean all the Chinese massage parlors are engaged with prostitution, or that all Chinese women in the massage business are likely engaged with prostitution."



Julia Wang claims she didn't know Backpage was an oasis of sex ads.

GETTY IMAGES

It would be one thing for the city to shut down businesses over firm evidence of illegal activity, Wang says. But it's another to insinuate she has committed a crime without proof.

An administrative hearing was held on May 30, with city hearing officer Michael Sintt finding the inspector's hunches

more credible than Wang's explanations. He also recommended that the city cut Orchid loose.

The community development and regulatory services committee will hear Wang once more this week before considering whether to deny her application to resume business. —SUSAN DU

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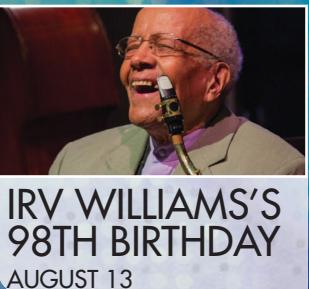
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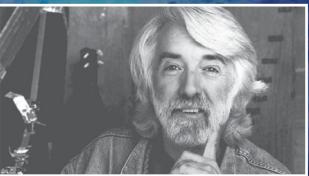
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A PEACEFUL VETERAN WHO ONLY WANTED
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AGAINST *the* GRAIN

by Mike Mullen

The facts of the case are not in dispute.

On a Sunday in January, a crowd of about 1,000 people arrived at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport to protest the Trump administration's Muslim travel ban.

Mike Madden intended to be among them. But the 62-year-old and his wife heat their St. Paul home with a wood-burning stove, and he had log-splitting to do.

"If you go against the grain, it's a lot of work," advises Madden, gripping a 16-pound maul. "If you go with the grain it's a lot easier."

It was 3 o'clock by the time his wife, Gail, dropped him at the airport. Finding no demonstrators in sight, Madden staged a one-man protest, walking up and down the baggage claim carrying a chest-sized sign. "MUSLIMS WELCOME," it read.

Some arriving passengers nodded. The rest looked through him. As he passed by a group of East African airport workers, two made eye contact, mouthing the words "Thank you."

Eventually Madden learned the protest had moved to another part of the airport. He tracked it down at precisely the moment a policeman barked into a bullhorn: Anyone who didn't leave immediately would be arrested.

As other protesters jammed into an airport tram, Madden hung back. He was "informed" or "instructed" to leave eight times, according to a criminal complaint. By about the fifth time, they were quibbling over the method: Madden wanted to wait for Gail to pick him up. The cops wanted him to take the next train.

As an officer forcibly escorted his charge—"tense and resisting"—toward the light rail station, Madden quit complying. "I'm not going," he said. "Go ahead and arrest me." So they did.

In the annals of crime, no caper sounds less exciting than The Man Who Wanted a Ride Home from His Wife. It's a little more interesting than it first appears.

Madden was born in 1955 to a large Irish Catholic family in northeast Minneapolis. "One



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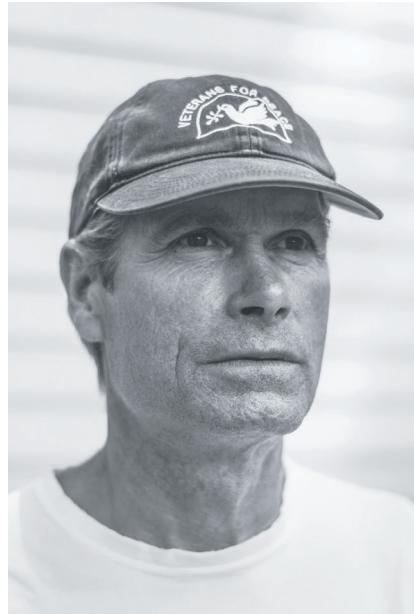
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COLIN MICHAEL SIMMONS

Mike Madden, 62, faces up to a one-year sentence for alleged criminal trespass at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.

older brother," he says with a wry smile. "Seven sisters."

Mom worked as a nurse, his father as a first-rate auto mechanic when alcoholism didn't get in the way.

Madden took after his big brother, an outspoken protester of the Vietnam War. But Mike wanted a way into college. He waited until after the Paris Peace Accords were signed in 1973 to join the Air Force, and served five years fixing radios and radar systems.

Madden enrolled at the University of Minnesota to study Spanish and Latin American history.

"Before that, I had kind of swallowed all that stuff about America purely being a force for good," Madden says. "College opened my eyes."

He eventually dropped out to become a cab driver, then a house painter. He now makes ends meet as a contractor and handyman. Madden travels by bike, and gets work by word of mouth. He's restored five neighborhood homes, and is hard at work on a sixth.

He knows the news better than most of the people who make it, casually citing the number of a congressional resolution or the percentage of energy a 20-year-old project generated by polluting indigenous Canadians' land.

As a member of Veterans for Peace, Madden has protested against Iraq Wars, drone strikes, Guantanamo Bay, and the imprisonment of Chelsea Manning. He can't imagine another way.

"It's high drama," Madden says. "I want to live life fully engaged in this world. I'm going to be a part of it all."

Madden says he went to the airport that cold January day because he was "offended

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by the clear religious discrimination." The ban, he concluded, would do more harm than good.

"The 'war on terror' is perceived abroad as a war against Islam," he says. "And Trump's Muslim ban reinforces the idea that it is a war on Islam."

Gail is quieter. "She writes more letters to her elected officials than anyone," says her husband. She would prefer he take the prosecutors' offer after his airport arrest: plead guilty, pay a \$100 fine, and agree not to "trespass" at the airport again for 12 months.

That would've been the easy way. It's working against the grain that's hard. "It's about the principle," Madden says. "I didn't do anything wrong."

In March, Madden refused a plea deal from the Metropolitan Airports Commission's private attorneys, who essentially

"I want to live life fully engaged in this world," Madden says. "I'm going to be a part of it all."

act as prosecutors-for-hire. So they upped the charge, accusing him of "trespass on critical public service facilities."

Noted First Amendment defender Jordan Kushner thinks his client is being punished for not giving in.

Kushner also represented Michael Morey, who sat down in the middle of the airport's dropoff section, deliberately stopping traffic. Morey took a plea deal, and a judge reduced his offense to a petty misdemeanor, the equivalent of a traffic ticket.

It's one of those curiously American forms of injustice. "You can face a lot more punishment if you're innocent," Kushner says.

The lawyer has filed a motion to dismiss Madden's case, arguing he'd gone to the airport to "publicly express his opinion on an issue... at the center of a national debate." Madden was not interfering with airport business, Kushner asserts, and says authorities cannot dictate how a person vacates a given location.

Madden's first court date is scheduled for August 17. If the case isn't dropped or thrown out, he faces up to a year in prison and a \$3,000 fine. For carrying a little sign that says Muslims are welcome, and for trying to catch a ride home with his wife.

It's the sort of abuse of power that makes people rush to protest. So long as the day's fire wood is chopped, Mike Madden would be first in line. **CP**

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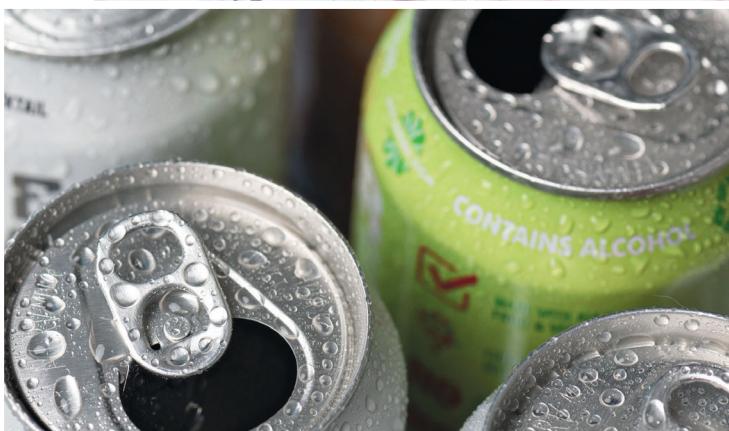
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POP TOPS

Seven non-beer cans for your summer cooler

BY HANNAH SAYLE

For as far as we've come toward a more nationally notable dining scene, the coasts still have the edge. Case in point: the canned cocktail.

Within the past year, nearly every food and lifestyle magazine has swooned over cocktails in cans. Tantalizingly convenient, the premixed caipirinhas and French 75s tease a summer filled with poolside frivolity, riverfront shenanigans, and lakeshore gaiety. Or at the very least, drunk-ass picnics.

So how painful it was to bring a list of the sexiest new canned cocktails into several local liquor stores, only to be met with, at best, blank stares, and at worst the simultaneously belittling and discouraging question: "Where did you even get that list?"

Sigh. Clearly, I got it from the cocktail-addled imaginations of the coastal elite.

But fret not, landlocked brethren, we've still got options. Below are seven canned drinks to try while we wait for the luxury of the east and the west to converge over the nation's thirsty midsection.

7 JUICEBAR COCKTAILS

1 CARROT ALOE MANGO, 4.9% ABV
Since May, Juicebar has been popping up at a lot of shops around town. The brand promises all-natural, "clean and green" cocktails in "smoothie-inspired



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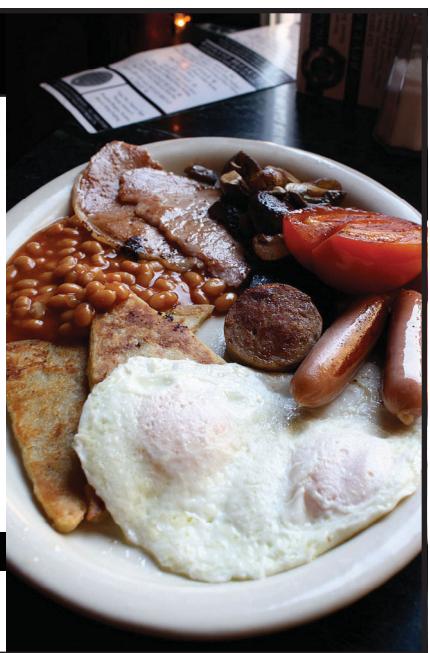
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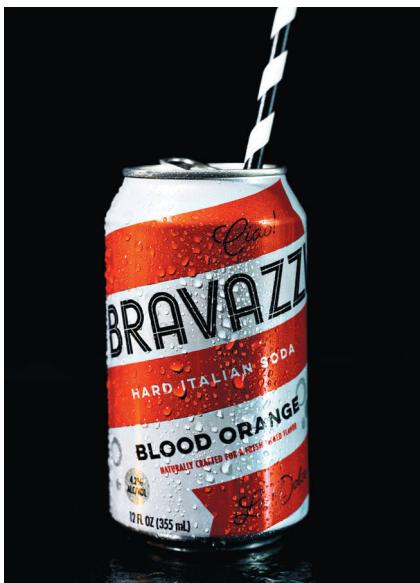
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flavors,” as if giving the world of malt beverages a healthy kick in the pants. That’s not exactly the health tonic we’d recommend, but the carrot/aloe/mango flavor is surprisingly drinkable. Does it taste like a melted peach Jolly Rancher? Maybe a little. It’s lightly carbonated, with the sweetness of a nectar that effectively masks the malt aftertaste. Steer clear of the more ambitious but less successful pineapple/lime/cilantro variety, which awkwardly clashes the bitter flavor of the malt with herbal cilantro and tropical fruit.

6 WHITE CLAW

BLACK CHERRY, 5% ABV

All hail the dawn of the boozy seltzer water! While some other brands’ bitter aftertaste and fake fruit flavor dampen the magic of the low calorie count, White Claw’s black cherry flavor balances booze and fruit essence perfectly—almost too perfectly. You could get very, very drunk on these. If that isn’t your goal, go slow and mix some virgin seltzer in from time to time for good measure. No matter what, you’re keeping your calorie intake low (110 per can!) and your party quotient high.

5 BRAVAZZI HARD SODA

BLOOD ORANGE, 4.2% ABV

If you love the sophisticated sodas of San Pellegrino, but you’re tired of sneaking off to the kitchen to funnel in booze from your hip flask, Bravazzi hard Italian sodas (in grapefruit, limonata, and blood orange flavors) will make your habit a bit easier. Unlike the spiked seltzers, Bravazzi isn’t so concerned about calorie counts, but the result is a thoroughly quaffable refreshment. The sugar cane brewing process makes this naturally gluten-free and the flavor bright and sweet, with some blood orange bitterness to avoid cloying.

4 UNDERWOOD

THE BUBBLES, 11% ABV

When you need to make a toast but you’re too comfortable in your inner tube to pop a bottle and fill a champagne flute, reach for a cold can of the Bubbles. This sparkling Chardonnay from Underwood is a portable, potable party with notes of “ripe citrus, tropical fruit, and white flowers.” It’s dry and refreshingly effervescent, and double the booze of other cans on this list.

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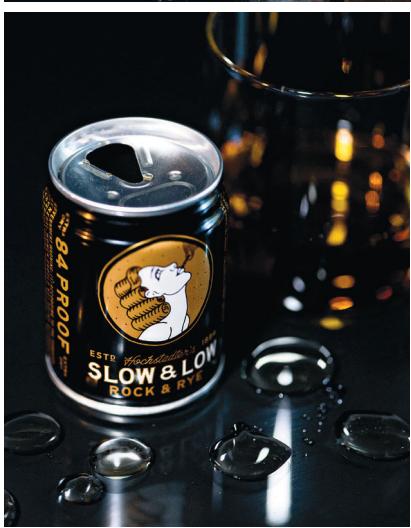
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3 JOIA SPIRITS

SPARKLING MOSCOW MULE,
SPARKLING GREYHOUND, SPARKLING
COSMOPOLITAN, 6-7% ABV

We're giddy over our local soda company stepping in to fill the void of canned cocktails in the Midwest—even more so because these flavors are actually tasty. You'd expect as much from a company that breezes past standard pop flavors in favor of Grapefruit Chamomile Cardamom and Ginger Apricot Allspice. For its debut cocktails, Joia opted for classics with contemporary buzz: the Moscow Mule, the Greyhound, and the Cosmopolitan. We were instant fans of the Moscow Mule, which nails the thirst-quenching double-whammy of fizz and spicy ginger. The Greyhound plays on the easy-drinking mix of vodka and grapefruit to instantly delight. The Cosmopolitan was perhaps our least favorite, simply for its syrupy sweetness, but if the cranberry-vodka combo is your drink of choice, you'll find this one a passable substitute for the real deal.

2 CUTWATER SPIRITS

GIN & TONIC, 6.2% ABV

Cutwater Spirits is the latest canned cocktail to enter the Twin Cities market, starting last week. From the beer wizards behind San Diego's Ballast Point Brewing, the extensive line (gin and tonic, bloody Mary, rum and cola, cucumber vodka soda,

vodka mule, etc.) could easily fill a cooler with enough variety to suit all tastes and occasions. Though the spectacularly spicy Bloody Mary (10% ABV) passes muster and a Rum & Cola (7% ABV) is a smooth and sweet sipper, the Gin & Tonic is the clear standout of the bunch, blending an aromatic gin with bright grapefruit and cucumber tonic and effervescence that lasts. We could see many hours knocking these back on a shady patio, no glass or lime wedge necessary.

1 SLOW & LOW ROCK & RYE

42% ABV

Aiming to impress with your canned drink of choice? Hands-down the best can on this list, Rock & Rye is a tiny package that packs a craft cocktail bar's worth of quality—and booze. This slow-sipper mixes rye whiskey with raw honey, navel orange, and Angostura bitters, like an Old Fashioned in a can. It goes down smooth enough to drink straight, or you can pour it over ice if you're feeling fancy. At \$3.50 a pop, this tipple is a much better deal than most bars around town will cut you.

WHERE TO SHOP:

Joia Spirits and Juicebar are available at most area liquor stores. Big-box retailers should have your Bravazzi and White Claw. For Underwood, call ahead to your favorite shops; we had success at France 44. Cutwater is making its way into the market and as of press time was available at Surdyk's, Wayzata Wine & Spirits, and Stinson Wine, Beer, and Spirits; Slow & Low is available at Total Wine & More.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING OUT FOR IN THE FUTURE:

We may not have them in the Twin Cities yet, but these buzzed-about cocktail cans are on our radar: Novo Fogo Sparkling Caipirinha; Pampelonne French 75; Can Can Cocktails' small-batch White Linen and Boar's Bourbon Root Beer out in California; Mighty Swell Sparkling Cocktails from Austin, Texas.

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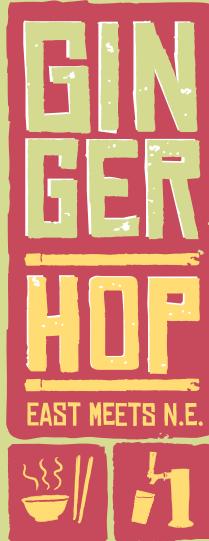
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A LIST

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SUNDAY Flamenco at Icehouse P. 27

MONDAY U.K. movies on Brit's rooftop P. 27

WEDNESDAY 8.9

COMEDY

MOSHE KASHER AND NATASHA LEGGERO: THE ENDLESS HONEYMOON TOUR

THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

"This is kind of like a big couples counseling," says Moshe Kasher of his Endless Honeymoon Tour with wife Natasha Leggero. The comedian couple first toured together roughly a year and a half ago after they got married, and are now bringing their wedded bliss to Minneapolis. Individually, both Kasher and Leggero have been busy as of late, with Leggero's *Another Period* preparing to start its third season on Comedy Central, and Kasher recently wrapping the first season of his talk show, *Problematic*. While they will each perform individual standup sets, perhaps the best part of their show is when the couple comes together and brings other couples onstage to help troubleshoot their relationships. "We end up either helping couples or humiliating them," Kasher continues. That spontaneity ensures that every show is unique, though Leggero is quick to point out they have some unspoken rules for choosing volunteers. "If they are drunk or too enthusiastic, we don't want that," she says. "We don't want to share the stage." From lack of connection to why buying a vibrator for a birthday is a bad move, the topics that couples choose to explore are all over the map. But in the end, we assume this is one of those cornball clichés like, "a couple who laughs together, stays together!" right? "My therapist actually warned me to not work with my partner," says Leggero. Whoops. 7 p.m. \$30. 410 Oak Grove St., Minneapolis; 612-813-5300. —PATRICK STRAIT

COMEDY

MOSES STORM

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Comedy fans may remember Moses Storm from season nine of *Last Comic Standing*, the one in which Minnesota's own Andy Erikson competed. He can



SHANNON ESTLUND, FIFTY-THREE DEGREES

also be seen in the romantic comedy *The Wedding Party* and the thriller *Unfriended*, as well as the Hulu series *4 to 9ers*. Traveling the country is nothing new to Storm. When he was four, his single mom sold their house and bought a converted Greyhound bus. Along with his mom and four siblings, he trekked across the U.S. doing missionary work. "We slept on homemade bunk beds," he recalled on *Last Comic Standing*. "These were basically shelves that children slept on." Onstage today, he still jokes about his family and friends. "I think you can tell how bad your friend's alcohol problem has gotten by how much they rave about Uber. 'Uber has revolutionized the way I travel,'" he says, imitating an inebriated friend. "No, your DUI revolutionized the way you travel." 18+. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. \$15-\$18.

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THURSDAY 8.10

FILM

DROP DEAD GORGEOUS

LAKE HARRIET BANDSHELL

Head over to Lake Harriet Bandshell this week for a viewing of Brittany Elizabeth Hallman's classic '90s black comedy, *Drop Dead Gorgeous*. Set in the fictional town of Mount Rose, Minnesota, the movie was filmed in the Twin Cities, so there's lots of fun to be had spotting familiar locations. The story follows Kirsten Dunst as a beauty pageant contender with a heart of gold. Watch her battle it out with her small-town frenemies. The flick features pitch-perfect performances by

Ellen Barkin, Denise Richards, Brittany Murphy, and Amy Adams (in her film debut!). Who will win the Sarah Rose Cosmetics Mount Rose American Teen Princess Pageant? Come find out, after hearing live music from local band Tony Peachka. 7 p.m. (movie at dusk). Free. 4135 W. Lake Harriet Pkwy., Minneapolis; 612-661-4785. —SHEILA REGAN

FRIDAY 8.11

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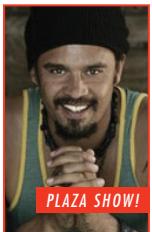
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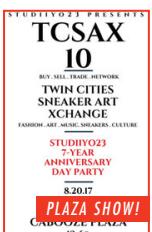
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celebrate the end of its multi-year, multimillion-dollar restoration project with happenings for kids and grown-ups alike. Each morning, there will be free yoga sessions on the lawn. Head inside and sign up for a group tour detailing the building's upgrades, or head into one of the rooms hosting lectures, which will cover topics such as Minnesota beer history, local folklore, and our music scene past and present. Outside, families can play in the Kids' Zone and adults can enjoy cocktails on the loggia. Live music and performances are also scheduled, with a Prince dance party on Friday night and sets from Cloud Cult and Poliça on Saturday evening. Fireworks cap off the first two days of celebration around 9:30 p.m. For a complete lineup and additional info, visit mn.gov/admin/capitol-grand-opening. 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. Free; some free events require tickets/reservations. 75 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul; 651-296-2881. **Through Sunday** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

FESTIVAL**IRISH FAIR OF MINNESOTA****HARRIET ISLAND**

From the Friday night kickoff party onward, the Irish Fair of Minnesota remains dedicated to the proposition that revelry is an essential component of Irish cultural appreciation. Annually held on Harriet Island, this three-day celebration pays homage to those of Irish descent, retracing customs of the distant past to contemporary traditions. Visitors can expect to encounter workshops focusing on the rich lore of Irish musical forms, speakers recounting the tumultuous history of the country, and intriguing displays of artifacts. If all that sounds a tad academic, rest

assured the fair offers ample diversions, including ongoing dance performances (and tutorials) amid a procession of international musical entertainment ranging from traditional folk balladeers to pub rockers. As always, an enormous assortment of food and drink vendors will be available for a delectable feast of Irish cuisine and beverages. One new option will undoubtedly command the attention of foodies; the Celtic Kitchen will feature a series of cooking demonstrations and competitions. For more info, visit www.irishfair.com. 3 to 11 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. Free. 200 Dr. Justus Ohage Blvd., St. Paul; 651-266-6400. **Through Sunday** —BRAD RICHASON

ART/LGBTQ
CHROMACOR**MODUS LOCUS**

The Twin Cities comic and zine scenes are bursting with creativity. That includes series and works created by female, queer, and POC cartoonists. For the past couple of years, folks have seen this demonstrated at the Twin Cities Zine Fest, an exceptionally inclusive event. Now, works from such artists will be showcased at Modus Locus at their summertime group show. The exhibition, curated by Caitlin Skaalrud, will highlight five emerging talents. Texas transplant Alex D. Araiza explores being homesick in his strip, while Fiona Avocado takes readers through topics ranging from current events to alternate universes. Minneapolis-based Ana Hinojosa, born in the Dominican Republic, explores Caribbean Latinx cultures and identities, and has contributed to the feminist teen/young adult publication Rookie Magazine. Coryn LaNasa plays with autobiographical and extraterrestrial elements. Rosemary Valero-O'Connell,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25 ▶

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JEFF MILLIKAN, *IT APPEARED TO BE A WARNING*

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ▶

whose work has appeared in DC Comics (and City Pages!), is currently working on a graphic novel with author Mariko Tamaki. See their pieces together in one exhibit. There will be an opening reception at 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, August 11. 3500 Bloomington Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-382-9477. **Through September 12** —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

SATURDAY 8.12

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RON FUNCHES

THE CEDAR CULTURAL CENTER

Ron Funches has embarked on a circuitous route to fame. Though he's experienced in front of the camera, his latest endeavors have been commercial disappointments (a Bruce Willis vehicle, *Once Upon a Time in Venice*, floundered, as did the promising TV comedy *Powerless*). Even if the projects failed to take off, each has provided evidence of Funches' irresistible charisma. In fact, the underperformance of such works could prove all the best for audiences, as Funches has directed his energies back to where he truly shines: the standup stage. With his conversational amiability and insightful ruminations on social absurdities, Funches has honed his disarming persona as he muses on the oddities of everyday existence.

Unlike many comics, however, Funches evinces a decidedly uncynical view of the world, focusing on his amazement at such cultural tropes as pop-culture obsessions, unfortunate tattoo choices, and the rise of robotic powers. Funches demonstrates a masterful delivery, leisurely working his way through

hilariously off-kilter observations, pausing only in anticipation of each cleverly constructed (and irresistibly witty) punchline. With an air of perpetual amusement, Funches is always eager to let audiences in on the joke. All ages. 7 p.m. \$26. 416 Cedar Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-338-2674. —BRAD RICHASON

BEER/GOVERNMENT

CAP UNTAPPED

MINNESOTA STATE CAPITOL

You may be able to get a sixer on Sunday now, but beer is back on topic at the Capitol this Saturday. As part of weekend festivities, more than 40 breweries will gather to celebrate the completion of a four-year, \$310-million renovation to one of the city's most notable structures. It's not every day you can legally get tipsy on the Capitol lawn while rubbing elbows with state leaders. Breweries will line Capitol Mall, pouring their Minnesota pride for attendees. After the two-hour beer sampling party, enjoy live sets from Cloud Cult and Poliça topped off by a fireworks show. Cap Untapped is sponsored by the Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild, which also handles the Autumn Brew Review next month. Tickets and more info can be found at www.tempotickets.com/CapUntapped. 21+. 4 to 6 p.m. \$25. 75 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul; 651-296-2881. —LOREN GREEN

ART/GALLERY

THE THINGS WE SEE

GALLERY 71

Tiny markings that add up to enormous resonance. Daguerreotype-like paintings. Sculptural books made out of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27 ▶

PLUG IN, LISTEN, **TAP FOOT**

MUSIC NEWSLETTER

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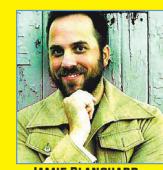
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CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ▶

beeswax. Abstractions with wild color combinations. The work on exhibition in this show—by Patricia Canelake, Will Bentsen, Jeff Millikan, and Jennifer Nevitt—couldn't be more different in terms of intention, subject, media, and execution. Yet, similarities exist. Exquisitely worked and rendered, the pieces engage with their plentiful detail, and they demonstrate the range of creative expression that exists in the human spirit, ready to emerge and enhance our understanding of art and its makers. There will be a public reception from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 20. Free. 7161 France Ave. S., Edina; 952-835-5000. **Through October 28**—CAMILLE LEFEVRE

ART/GALLERY

GRAVEYARD SHIFT/ LOW VISUAL DISTANCE

ROSALUX GALLERY

The new paintings by Jim Hittinger and Shannon Estlund in this joint exhibition are the antithesis of August: dark, lush, and foreboding in a time of cool water, hot sun, and light-drenched color. Whether recreating a rich tangle of deep forest or a procession of politically charged objects against a sparse background, the artists' works project a quiet reprieve from summer enthusiasms. There are elements of the unknown, the unexplained, and the mysterious embedded in these pieces. Try not to lose yourself in their depths. There will be an opening reception and gallery talk from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday,

August 12. Free. 1400 Van Buren St. NE, Minneapolis; 612-747-3942. **Through August 27**—CAMILLE LEFEVRE

SUNDAY 8.13

COMEDY

ANGELO TSAROUCHAS

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY When we spoke to comedian Angelo Tsarouchas last summer, he had just returned from doing a series of shows in Greece. In the past year, he has continued working overseas, mostly in

the Middle East. "I've been doing shows in Britain and also in Dubai and Qatar," he says. "All those places the Donald is not too crazy about." Only about half of his audiences in those countries are expatriates. "A lot of the locals speak English and were educated in the U.S. and U.K.," he notes. "Working overseas, I've noticed how much Comedy Central, Netflix, and other outlets have changed the international landscape for comedians. A lot of my material really resonates with international audiences. They're really immersed in our culture." Contrary to what our president would

lead you to believe, many in the Middle East love us. "In Qatar, you'll see an Applebee's in Arabic," Tsarouchas adds. "They say, 'I want to go to America, I want to go to New York and San Francisco.'" It's been a great source of material. "I even tell them, 'I'm here to get new material,' and they laugh." 18+; 21+ later shows. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$13-\$22. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Wednesday through Sunday**—P.F. WILSON

MONDAY 8.14

FILM

BRIT'S ANNUAL OUTDOOR MOVIE SERIES

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Every Monday from August 14 through September 4, Brit's Pub in downtown Minneapolis clears the lawn bowlers from its rooftop greensward for an outdoor screening of British cinema. This year's schedule includes brutal mystery thriller *The Girl on the Train* (August 14), the Meryl Streep comedy/bio/drama *Florence Foster Jenkins* (August 21), *Bridget Jones's Baby* (August 28), and the Harry Potter prequel, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (September 4). Head over before the show starts, grab a pint of Guinness, and watch the sun go down. Visit www.britspub.com for more information. All ages. 8:30 p.m. Free. 1110 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-332-3908. **Mondays through September 4**—JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

DANCE

FLAMENCURA: XIANIX BARRERA AND SACHIKO "LA CHAYÍ"

ICEHOUSE

Sachiko "La Chayí" Nishiuchi is back at Icehouse this Sunday, along with guest flamenco dancer Xianix Barrera from New York City. Together, they'll be making some noise with their feet and stirring hearts and emotion with their bodies. A 2017 recipient of the McKnight Dancer Fellowship, La Chayí hails from Osaka, Japan, and studied flamenco in Spain before returning to her old stomping grounds here in the Twin Cities. Over the past year, the flamenco dancer has graced the stage at Icehouse for her traditional Alma Flamenca performances, sharing her own interpretations of the classic form. The casual setting at the Icehouse makes for a perfect date night, as you can sip some wine and grab a bite to eat while watching these masters perform. All ages. 6:30 p.m. \$20-\$23; \$12-\$15 kids 12 and under. 2528 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis; 612-276-6523. —SHEILA REGAN



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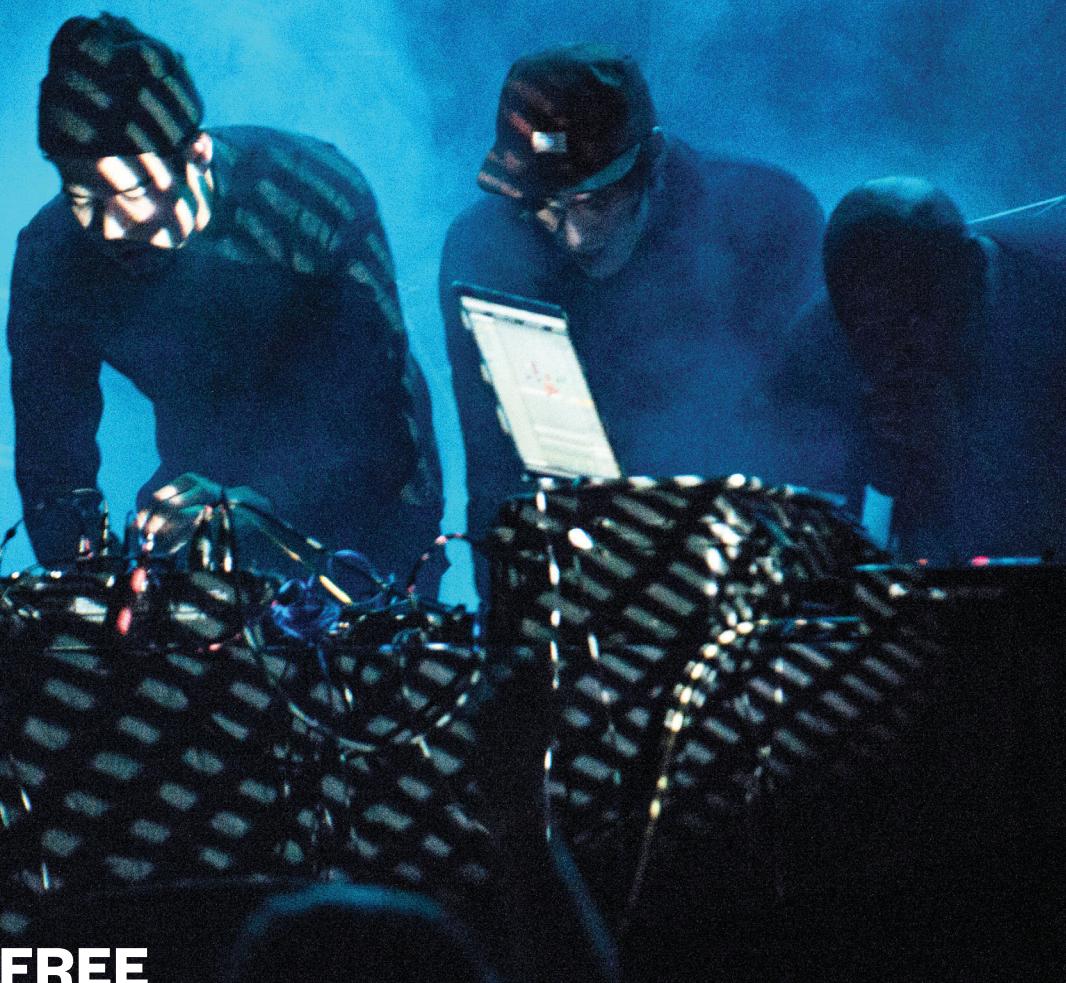
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Ryan Olson

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Thursday, August 17

Dusk (about 8:30 pm) **FREE**

Ryan Olson (Poliça, Gayngs) and his Minneapolis based noise-band Marijuana Deathsquads, featuring collaborators from Bon Iver, Hippo Campus, The Pines, and Poliça, present intriguing and new live cinematic scores set to 1920s experimental short films by iconic Avant-guard artists Hans Richter, Viking Eggeling, and Rene Clair. Films are drawn from the Walker's Ruben/Bentson Moving Image Collection.

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WALKER

TOWERING INFERNO

The long-awaited film adaptation of Stephen King's *Dark Tower* saga is a flaming pile



Idris Elba
and Tom Taylor

ILZE KITSHOFF

BY TONY LIBERA

If you've been following the behind-the-scenes saga of *The Dark Tower* movie, it will come as no surprise that the film adaptation of Stephen King's magnum opus is bad. The project had been in limbo since 2007, passing from J.J. Abrams to Ron Howard in 2010 before ultimately landing in the hands of director Nikolaj Arcel. Post-production rumors further raised red flags and, sure enough, *The Dark Tower* has proven a movie that will both disappoint King's faithful and perplex newcomers to the tale.

The Dark Tower story spans eight books. *The Dark Tower* movie spans 95 minutes. Rather than shoot for a direct adaptation of any one book, the filmmakers opted for a mishmash of events depicted at

various points in the epic and then took additional liberties.

Obviously any film adaptation is going to require some tweaking and paring, but what we get here is a crude patchwork of what is, in writing, a vast mythology—and the end product is a hurried and shallow simulacrum that fails to stand on its own.

The film version tells the story of Roland Deschain (Idris Elba) through the eyes of a boy named Jake Chambers (Tom Taylor). Jake has been plagued by nightmares since his father died: visions of another world, a Man in Black (Matthew McConaughey), and the gunslinger Roland, an alternate-universe cowboy-knight sworn to protect the Dark Tower from falling. When some evil goons come to kidnap Jake, he finds a way to cross dimensions and runs into Roland, who's

now on a quest to kill the the Man in Black.

There's not much of anything worth seeing here. The story comes out like word vomit. The CGI looks years behind. The action sequences are mostly unimaginative. Matthew McConaughey dials his McConaugheyness to 11 even though he's playing an evil sorcerer, which is a constant distraction.

The only enjoyable part of the film is Idris Elba, who is so supremely talented he could play a shoe in a movie and it would somehow be badass and compelling. Here he imbues Roland with both an awesome power and a reserved helplessness that gives at least some nuance to a world of one-dimensional characters. The only thing he doesn't quite nail is Roland's obsession, but that has more to

THE DARK TOWER
directed by Nikolaj Arcel
area theaters, now showing

do with the movie's overall shortcomings than it does with Elba's performance. And Elba's strong portrayal is yet another great fuck-you to adaptation purists who believe a character originally written as white, like Roland Deschain, can't be anything other than white.

It's a shame *The Dark Tower* couldn't be more. There's so much source material from which to draw, so many ambitious ideas to explore had the movie been reined in. We could've had a *Harry Potter*-type franchise here. But given how poorly *The Dark Tower* was executed, it'd be a shock to see anything else come of it. **EP**



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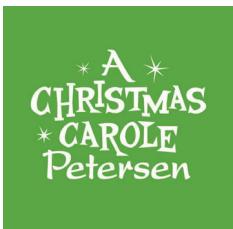
Written by
Dale Wasserman

Lyrics by
Joe Darion

Music by
Mitch Leigh

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Peter Rothstein

Musical
Arrangements by
Denise Prosek

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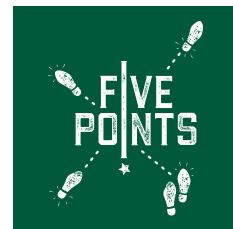


Music & Lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim

Book by
John Weidman

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**SONDHEIM'S MOST
CONTROVERSIAL**



Book by
Harrison David Rivers

Music by
Ethan D. Pakchar & Douglas Lyons

Lyrics by
Douglas Lyons

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Written By
Glen Berger

Music by
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STAGE READING

Brush up on these books before heading to the theater



BY JAY GABELER

Read it before you see it: Movie buffs know to keep an eye on trailers so they can finish classic novels and the latest bestsellers before they hit cinemas. A batch of books are coming to local stages this season, too. Here are a few tomes to consider for your final summer reads before the curtains rise.

Don Quixote, Miguel de Cervantes

MAN OF LA MANCHA, THEATRE LATTÉ DA, SEPT. 13-OCT. 22

Read one of the world's greatest books, and you'll have valuable context for the 1964 musical that's being given a provocative staging at the Ritz Theater. Director Peter Rothstein plans to set his production in an immigration holding center, giving new resonance to the play-within-a-play that originally imagined the author awaiting a hearing with the Spanish Inquisition.

Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck

PARK SQUARE THEATRE, NOV. 9-DEC. 16
Annie Enneking directs a new production of this Park Square staple, the story of displaced migrant workers during the Great Depression. Steinbeck's 1937 novella has proved readily adaptable to film and stage. You'll probably want to pack some Kleenex.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Mark Haddon

MIXED BLOOD THEATRE, NOV. 10-DEC. 3
This 2003 novel was turned into a 2012 play that uses elaborate effects to take viewers inside the mind of Christopher, a boy with autism who sets out to solve the mystery of a murdered dog. A high-tech touring

production came to the Orpheum last year; a more intimate local staging might help correct that show's intentionally overstimulating excesses.

Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen

MISS BENNET: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERTON, JUNGLE THEATER, NOV. 18-DEC. 30

This 2016 comic play by Lauren Gunderson and Margaret Melcon is an unusual sort of literary adaptation: Its events take place two years after those described in the beloved 1813 novel. Mr. and Mrs. Darcy (um, sorry if that's a spoiler) are hosting the extended Bennet family for a holiday gathering, and you'll be best positioned to catch all the references if the book is fresh in your mind.

Candide, Voltaire

ARTISTRY, MARCH 1-3

Leonard Bernstein's 1956 musical adaptation of Voltaire's 1759 satire is getting a concert staging in Bloomington—although, disappointingly, not in the form of a site-specific production at the Mall of America. Find an annotated text if you want to fully appreciate the allusions to events like the 1755 Lisbon earthquake; regardless, your theatrical book club will have plenty of philosophy to puzzle over on your drive down I-35W to the "best of all possible worlds."

Kids' classics

The Children's Theatre Company likes to stage plays that began as books, and this season that means *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (Nov. 7-Jan 7); *The Wiz* (Jan. 23-March 18, with Penumbra Theatre); *Corduroy* (March 6-May 13); and another Dr. Seuss joint, *The Lorax* (April 17-June 10). **EP**

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"ABSURD AND ABSURDLY CHARMING."

-Manohla Dargis, THE NEW YORK TIMES

Los Angeles Times Critics' Pick

"A DISARMINGLY SWEET COMEDY."

-Justin Chang, LOS ANGELES TIMES

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DJ ESPADA - 10PM - CLOSE

SAT
AUG 12

DJ
DJ SOTA - 10PM - CLOSE
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STREET Style

WALK THE WOOTOP A fashion show benefitting the Humane Society. **BY ELLEN LAWSON**



JENA SEPPAMAKI

41, MENSWEAR SALES AT ATMOSFERE

What are you wearing?

See eyewear, Wayf dress via shopbop.com, Jerome Dreyfuss shoulder bag, and Sigerson Morrison heels.

Describe your style:

Easy like Sunday morning.

Best rooftop patio in the Twin Cities?

4 Bells.

Best styles to stay cool on a hot night out?

A topknot, 'lil romper, and a chilled rosé.

SID NAMBANGI

28, IT

What are you wearing?

Zara. I tend not to wear the bespoke stuff in summer.

Describe your style:

Animé. Honestly, that's where I get half my ideas.

Best rooftop patio in the Twin Cities?

Sushi Tango might not have the best view, but the food makes it worth it.

Best styles to stay cool on a hot night out?

I'm on this blazer-with-no-shirt thing.

JALYN ANDERSON

20, NORDSTROM SALES AND STYLING ASSOCIATE

What are you wearing?

Jumpsuit from Buffalo Exchange, Zara heels, faux fur jacket from Opitz Outlet.

Describe your style:

Engaging, daring, and unpredictable.

Best rooftop patio in the Twin Cities?

Union Rooftop.

Best styles to stay cool on a hot night out?

Sleeveless with a light jacket just in case.

HAYTHEM KHALIL

35, REAL ESTATE NINJA

What are you wearing?

Sunglasses by Maui Jim Eh Brah, sport coat from Kohl's, Ralph Lauren pocket square (that cost more than the jacket), J.Crew button-up and pants, Johnston & Murphy wingtips.

Describe your style:

Young business casual. I am all about bright or pastel colors.

Best rooftop patio in the Twin Cities?

For a fun night out, Seven or Crave. If I want to crush some oysters, I am going to Stella's.

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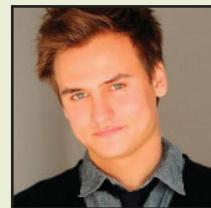


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TUESDAY AUG 15 **'SPACESEX'** [FREE]

DJ NECRONANCER & GUESTS

SONGS OF HIMSELF

After years of making other bands sound better, Jeremy Ylvisaker releases his first solo records

BY ERIK THOMPSON



If you're a Twin Cities music fan, chances are you've heard the guitar work of Jeremy Ylvisaker—but never quite like this.

Ylvisaker's two new instrumental collections, *Dimebag* and *Malibu Hymnal*, are the veteran local musician's very first solo albums. With both electric flourishes and spare acoustic melodies, the guitarist conveys emotions as varied as vulnerability, loneliness, and affection.

The six acoustic songs on *Malibu Hymnal* have a relaxed, summertime vibe, as though listeners are sitting around a fire pit hearing Ylvisaker play tenderly as the sun sets over the lake. *Dimebag* is an experimental concept album about the death of Pantera guitarist "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott and his burial with Eddie Van Halen's guitar beside him. The material was culled from 10 years' worth of recordings made at multiple locations, from Andrew Bird soundchecks to Micheal "Eyedea" Larsen's studio. Each song is a fond ode to the musicians Ylvisaker has worked with over the years, who have taught him more than they'll ever know.

"I never went to college," Ylvisaker says over coffee on a beautiful summer morn-

ing in Minneapolis' North Loop. "But all my friends—Andrew Bird, Martin Dosh, Andrew Broder, Ryan Francesconi, Mikey Larsen, JT Bates, Mike Lewis—they are like my professors. Learning from them was my college. Those guys are just impossibly inspiring people. I feel like I want to dedicate this to everybody who showed me how to do stuff."

Ylvisaker has turned that quality edu-

cation into an impressive music career. He's performed with renowned

artists like John Prine, Justin Vernon, Jenny Lewis, Eyedea and Abilities, Haley, Fog, and Mark Mallman. And in addition to his current gigs with the Suburbs and Andrew Bird, he plays with his own bands: Alpha Consumer, the Cloak Ox, Gramma's Boyfriend, and Guitar Party (fronted by his daughter, Mijah). A few months back, Ylvisaker was an artist-in-residence at the Eaux Claires music festival. Makes you wonder how he found time to record

two solo albums.

"I've actually started and never finished a ton of things in the last 15 years," Ylvisaker says. "I just kept making things but never finishing anything. The initial part of *Dimebag* came together really fast, and then I, of course, never finished it. Over the years, I just kept making things that fit with the sound of it and the vibe of it perfectly. So then I had all these CDs laying around with all these ideas on them. Finally, with the help of many engineers—Alex Proctor, in particular—we organized all those into a semi-cohesive thing. With the other one [*Malibu Hymnal*], I just started playing the acoustic guitar a bunch, and suddenly I had a lot of that music too. So one night I went down to Littlebig Studio with Brent Sigmeth, and knocked that out in a couple hours. So suddenly I had two finished things, what do I do? So I decided to put them out at the same time. One took 10 years, one took two hours."

Both albums offer unfiltered glimpses into Ylvisaker's imagination. *Malibu Hymnal*'s "Website Creek" has a wistful, somber tone that evokes walking away from a bad situation to a new place full of possibility

and potential, while the mournful, finger-picked chords of the title track suggest both loss and love. The title of "Bob Ross Saying Maybe," which belies the somber nature of the tune itself, is perhaps a nod to producer Mike Lewis' penchant for comically naming the songs he composes for his jazz band, Happy Apple.

"I just want everybody's day to be happier and more calm," Ylvisaker says of his creative aims for these releases. "The word 'sentimental' is kind of taboo in the world of a creative person, but I feel there is a proper way to engage with that real feeling."

Malibu Hymnal has a casual, easy-going charm, but also a rare emotional depth. "It's a nice day, just bring your guitar outside and mess around with open tunings," Ylvisaker says of the album's overall vibe and the leisurely way the songs came together. "Feeling your way through them, they just become tunes. I just wanted to dare myself to do it. I'm an electric player, and I'm usually in a band where I'm not accountable for the content at all. So it was just like, 'All right, dude. Can you do this?' The only way to do that is not think about it too hard, and do it quick."

Dimebag is a more unconventional, eclectic collection, with Ylvisaker joined on various tracks by Tim Glenn, Lewis, Dosh, Bates, and Broder. The avant-garde tonal excursions "Diamonds in the Sky," "Hazer," "Dusk," and "Rust" have an ominous, Lynchian quality, while the melancholy Steve Earle cover, "Goodbye" (recorded by Eyedea in his studio), is the most straightforward song found on either album. *Dimebag*'s centerpiece is the droney, eight-minute epic, "VH II (The Elder)," which captures the moment that Dimebag's Kiss-themed coffin slowly descends into his grave. "I see this elder being lowered into the ground, and this crazy, mystical lighting, and this guitar resonating forever," Ylvisaker explains.

After years of ceding the spotlight to his talented collaborators, Ylvisaker isn't fazed by having the attention placed squarely on him. "How I take the pressure off is realizing that this isn't 'impressive' music," Ylvisaker says. "It's not necessarily that it's boring, but it's like looking at a lake. There's big waves, there's millions of little waves, it's one shape, there's a few colors,



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MUSIC

you can look over there and it's different, there are sparkles from the sun. There are a lot of ways to look at a boring thing. I'm not trying to impress anybody."

But whether he's been trying to or not, Jeremy Ylvisaker has been impressing us all along. **CP**

CRITICS' PICKS

RODNEY CROWELL

DAKOTA, THURSDAY 8.10, FRIDAY 8.11

Since arriving in Nashville 40 years ago, Rodney Crowell has been a prolific, reliably first-rate songwriter, playing an outlaw mix of country, rock, R&B, and honky-tonk while making astute observations about treacherous relationships, characters, and times. Crowell assesses his life at age 66 on his latest album, the intimate and reflective *Close Ties*, singing about his hardscrabble youth, his long-lost flames, and his loneliness. Much of the music is acoustic, ambling folk—a bit somber, but, with a string quartet occasionally weighing in, consistently rich. "Nashville 1972" reminisces about wild, distant days hanging with Guy Clark and Mickey Newbury; "I'm Tied to Ya," a duet with Sheryl Crow, is a live-for-today love song; and "It Ain't Over Yet" perfectly juxtaposes nostalgic self-examination with resilient determination to carry on, the latter featuring pointed verses sung by ex-wife Rosanne Cash. 7 p.m. \$40-\$50. 1010 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-332-5299.

—RICK MASON

HERBIE HANCOCK

MINNESOTA ZOO, FRIDAY 8.11

From bop to funk to electro-pop, with numerous groundbreaking stops in between, Herbie Hancock has been a virtuoso keyboardist, genre-jumping innovator, unlikely hit-maker, and all-around musical guru for the past half-century. Hancock spent five years with Miles Davis in the 1960s, led the jazz-funk fusion band Headhunters and the all-star Miles alumni group V.S.O.P. in the '70s, and landed on the charts in the '80s with "Rockit," an avant-garde mix of industrial funk, jazz, and hip-hop. Hancock's first full-band tour since 2011 features longtime associates Lionel Loueke on guitar and Vinnie Colaiuta on drums, plus bassist James Genus and saxophonist Terrace Martin. Martin is also producing a new Hancock album with performances from younger cutting-edge jazz musicians Robert Glasper, Derrick Hodge, and Kamasi Washington. Expect a preview of new material, plus Hancock nuggets like "Chameleon" and "Cantaloupe Island." 7:30 p.m. \$75-\$103.50. 13000 Zoo Blvd., Apple Valley; 952-432-9000. —RICK MASON

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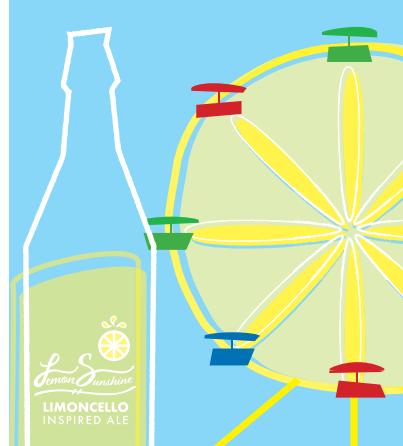
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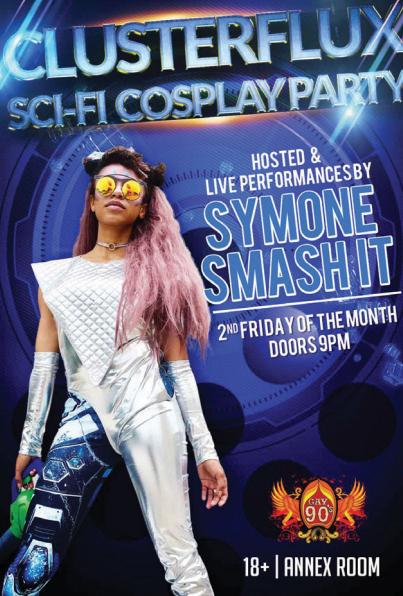
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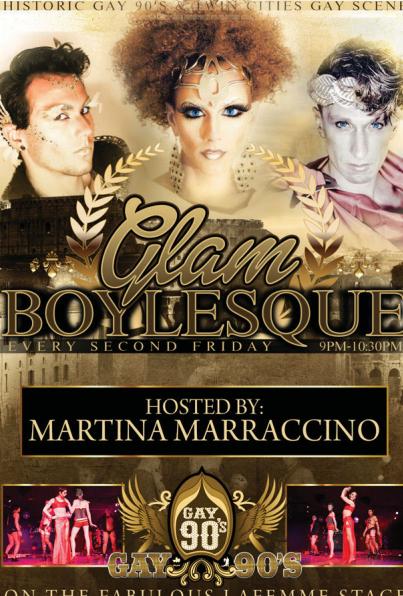
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MUSIC CRITICS' PICKS



COURTESY OF THE ARTISTS

PIZZA LUCÉ BLOCK PARTY

PIZZA LUCÉ, SATURDAY 8.12

Despite the fact that no Hold Steady song mentions Pizza Lucé (how can that be?), Craig Finn will headline the noted Twin Cities pizza chain's annual downtown Minneapolis block party this year, topping off an impressively deep lineup of local talent. He's joined by Allan Kingdom, whose new album, *INES*, extends the St. Paul-based MC's spacey brilliance in some interesting new lyrical directions, yet still barely hints at what an electric live performer he is. Rounding out the bill is the great, now surnameless Haley (previously Haley Bonar); onetime Lizzo accomplice Sophia Eris, who's launched her own solo career and also moonlights as a Go 95.3 on-air personality; and Fury Things, the rockers whose band name spares writers the trouble of having to describe their sound. Plus pizza from Lucé and beer from Surly. With Tabah, Static Panic, Fanaka, and Modern Era. *Noon. Free. 119 N. Fourth St., Minneapolis; 612-333-7359.* —KEITH HARRIS

BELLE AND SEBASTIAN

PALACE THEATER, TUESDAY 8.15

Perhaps the quintessential indie-pop band, Glasgow's enduring Belle and Sebastian have successfully experimented with their core sound over the years without diluting it, as leader Stuart Murdoch's affable wit and irrepressible melodic instincts remain ever intact. Their first three albums—*Tigermilk* and *If You're Feeling Sinister* from 1996, and 1998's *The Boy with the Arab Strap*—are undisputed classics, and 2003's *Dear Catastrophe Waitress* isn't far behind. On their latest album, 2015's Ben H. Allen-produced *Girls in Peacetime Want to Dance*, the band displayed a clubby electronic sensibility on songs like "The Party Line" and "Enter Sylvia Plath." Though there hasn't yet been an official announcement, the band may be readying their 10th album, as a new single, "We Were Beautiful," dropped last month. Julien Baker opens. *18+. 8 p.m. \$40-\$50. 17 W. Seventh Pl., St. Paul; 651-266-8989.* —MICHAEL MADDEN

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Poly Panic

I feel sexually neglected in my three-way relationship



Dan Savage

My boyfriend of eight months, K, and I are polyamorous. We started the relationship on that foot, and for a while I was the partner he spent the most time with. There have been ups and downs, but overall our relationship is solid and loving. However, recently we both started dating the same woman, L, and they have been spending more time together than with me due to my work schedule. They both reassure me that they love me and care for me deeply, but I am an anxiously attached person and sometimes I have panic attacks when they spend more time with others/themselves and fear that they're going to leave me. I'm working on becoming more secure via books on cognitive behavioral therapy, and I'm looking into in-person therapy. This is my first serious relationship, but not his (I'm 22, he's 35). And while K has been super patient with me, my worry and grasping is a point of friction in the relationship. K has told me he doesn't want to be solely responsible for my sexual satisfaction and my need for constant reassurance. The anxiety has been flaring up most strongly concerning sex—we're all switches, and K and L are both professional Dominants. I feel neglected if K doesn't penetrate me but he penetrates L, or if L gets to penetrate K via a strap-on and I don't. He's very good about voicing what he desires, while I'm learning to speak up despite feeling like I'm just being needy and grasping again. I love both my partners, but I've been feeling sexually neglected—and with a HIGH sex drive, it's been quite painful. This is my first "trio rodeo" and I really want to make it work—I've seen a future with K for a while (the I-want-your-children kind), and L is joining those future visions. How can I find a way to create more opportunities for sexy-time and not ruin it with anxiety attacks?

BDSM ENTHUSIASTIC LOVER ON VOYAGE 4 EMOTIONAL DURABILITY

I’m always suspicious when two (or more) people claim to be deeply in love after dating for a short period of time, BELOVED, and eight months qualifies as a short period of time. Premature declarations of love—to say nothing of premature commitments—up the emotional stakes, which can place a strain

on a newish relationship that it may not be strong enough to bear. Not yet.

You'll feel a lot less anxious about this relationship, BELOVED, if you make a conscious effort to lower the stakes. In other words: Dial it way back, girl.

You've been dating K for a little more than half a year, and L for whatever "recently" adds up to in a world where eight months equals LTR. It'll reduce your anxiety levels and soothe your insecurities if you tell yourself you aren't committed to K and L as life partners. Not yet. This is the beginning of these relationships. All you're committed to right now is continuing to get to know K and L. You're committed to dating them, you're committed to exploring where this might go, you're committed to enjoying your time with them, however long it lasts.

But you are not committed to them. Either of them. Not yet.

Committing yourself to therapy is a good idea, BELOVED. Everyone should commit to working on their emotional and mental health. You and your therapist can start by reevaluating whether a poly relationship is right for you in practice. In theory, you understand poly and you may want a poly relationship. (Particularly if it's the only way you can have K.) But as someone with anxiety issues and hang-ups about all sex acts being divided up equally, poly may not be right for you, or it may not be right for you right now. After a little therapy (or maybe a lot), who knows? (Also: Trying to portion out sex among three people like you would ice cream for three small kids—making sure each kid gets the exact same number and size of scoops—is unrealistic. Sometimes you'll get more; sometimes you'll get less. Eyeing those scoops too closely is only going to generate conflict.)

You've been at this rodeo for only eight months, BELOVED, and if these problems are already coming up, it might not be your attachment style or your anxiety. It's possible this rodeo isn't for you.

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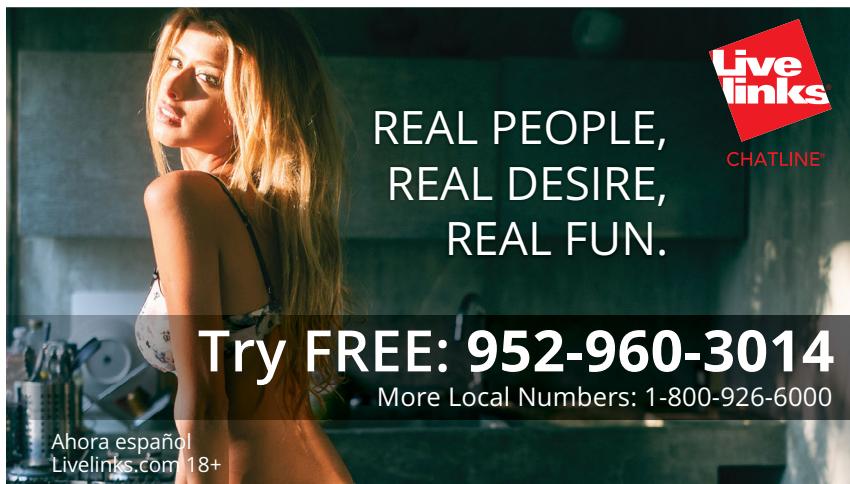
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Marley set a good example. 6 baby mommas and Rastafarian Christianity. Megatron – We must paint a smile on the front end of this machine. Dumpling, I hate you don't leave me? Check out Marley's "Redemption Song." How long shall we kill our profits while we stand alone and look, some say it's just a part of it, we've got to fulfill the book. You get dividend, I get artistic freedom. **DR. F**

102
Architecture/Engineering

Geomechanics Engineers

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172
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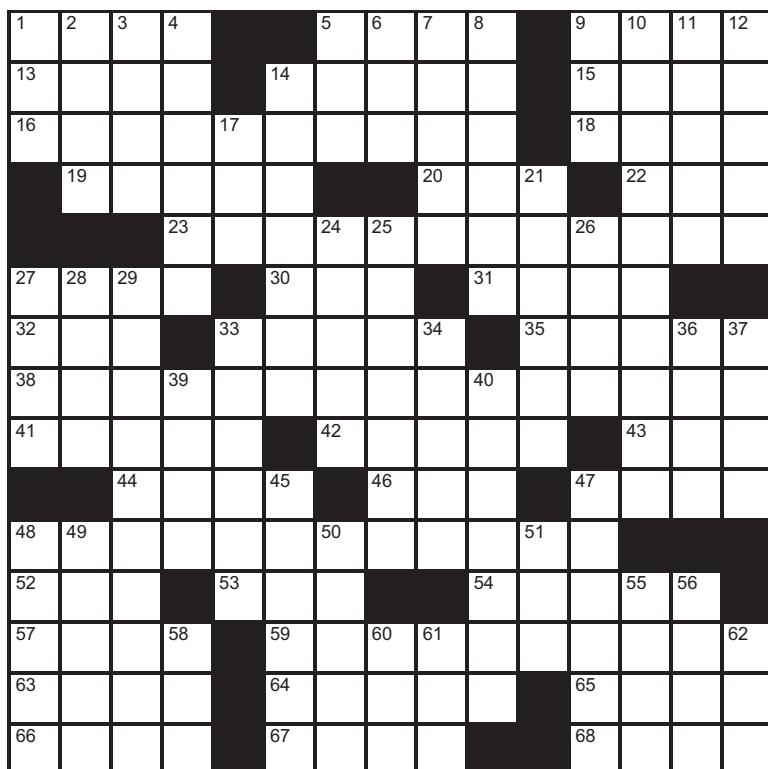
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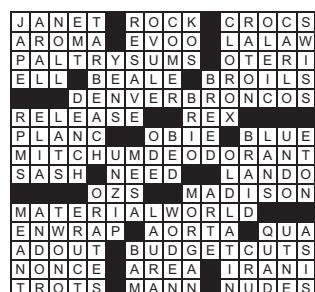
Across

1	NBA star Gasol	53	April 15th payment	29	Place where men don't go
5	Poet Lazarus	54	Event featuring roping	33	Exclusive vacation spot
9	Church alcove	57	Store in the overhead locker	34	Muggles can't do it
13	Megamix of leftovers, say	59	Button on the Pope's hat?	36	Hilarious comedy
14	Presidente ____ International Airport	63	"Aeneid" setting	37	Brings home
	(Argentine airport)	64	Roman historian	39	It may make you do something stupid
15	Pops alternative	65	Turkish cabbage	40	"My bad"
16	Put a facial application on "The Twilight Zone" host?	66	A few	45	Like marshland
18	Flirtatious girl	67	Strong urges	47	Veteran's decorations
19	Parisian subway	68	[The other copy editor didn't know what he was doing]	48	Throws a party
20	Big game			49	Last song on the album
22	Chairman with a Little Red Book			50	Stranger in a strange land, perhaps
23	Calvary?			51	Out of control group
27	Mallet sport			55	Work over, as copy
30	Winter ailment			56	Fairy tale baddie
31	Thinness comparison			58	The fourth of July?
32	"Queen Sugar" director DuVernay			60	Element #50
33	Supply with new weapons			61	Chief warrant officer's superior: Abbr.
35	About-face on the road			62	Engage in some capers?
38	French restaurant for the criminally insane?				

Down

1	Melania, to Barron	51	Out of control group
2	Astringent stuff	55	Work over, as copy
3	Carnival attraction	56	Fairy tale baddie
4	Sam's Club rival	58	The fourth of July?
5	Slippery dude	60	Element #50
6	Test done in a tube	61	Chief warrant officer's superior: Abbr.
7	"Impression, Sunrise" painter	62	Engage in some capers?
8	Fisherman		
9	Green machine?		
10	Instinctual desire		
11	Biblical mount		
12	Speedpass company		
14	Looked over, as copy		
17	Pull a boner		
21	Alison with 27 Grammys		
24	Chunks of rock		
25	Like a dream		
26	Sacred ceremony		
27	____ John's		
28	Watch face shape		

Last Week's Answer



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